THE

CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR World

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NOVEMBER, 1958

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Topics for December

NEW YORK BOOSTERS SECURED SEVENTY NEW SUBSCRIPTIONS AT SUMMER ASSEMBLY

For Christ and the Church

THE CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR World

Cover

The fifteen youth who worked as Boosters of THE CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR WORLD at New York's Summer Assembly at Canandaigua are shown with Eugene G. Alhart, past president of the Empire State. They are (left to right): Front row—Janet Wakely, Barbara Bolton, Cynthia Gondin, Eugene G. Alhart, Nancy Howard, Carol E. Gates, and Toni Whitten; Second row—Elliott Kraemer, Robert Kung, Robert Beattie, Jr., Robert Haines, Paul Mosher, William Batcher, James Edgar, Roger Robinson, and Gary Pinzel. Photo by C. Manley DeBevoise.

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The Voice of Christian Endeavor

NOVEMBER • 1958

Volume 74, Number 3

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MEMO

from the General Secretary . . . .

SEVENTY-EIGHT YEARS YOUNG . . . . That's Christian Endeavor on February 2, 1959. It's time to get started on plans for a big celebration of Christian Endeavor Week 1959, from January 25 to February 1. Write to us for the big packet just full of ideas and items for marking the 78th birthday of the movement. Services, banquets, parties, radio, television, newspapers—all are included. Of the packet World's Union president Dr. Daniel A. Poling says, "It is a remarkable and most comprehensive accumulation of materials. I do not remember that we ever had anything quite as complete as this." And it's yours for the low individual price of fifty cents.

IN THE FIELD . . . The service arm of Christian Endeavor has been strengthened and lengthened in several areas by addition of field and general secretaries. Ronald Rosenberg has been named the general secretary of the New Jersey Union. "Bud" spent three days at International Headquarters recently as part of his orientation. Elwood Dunn, chairman of the International Society's Topics Committee and member of the Executive Committee, has been returned to the important post of general secretary of the Michigan Union. Warren G. Hoopes, Sr., whose name is synonymous with Christian Endeavor in Pennsylvania, has retired from employed service and is succeeded by Gordon McMordie as general secretary. William "Bill" Arthur has just become the part-time field secretary in Oregon. Add all of these men to your prayer lists, won't you?

IN THE NEWS . . . . Alick Kennedy, who made his decision for full-time Christian service in the International Convention in Grand Rapids, has completed his studies at Princeton Theological Seminary and is serving a United Presbyterian Church in the east . . . . Christian Endeavor enthusiast, Dr. James DeForest Murch, for many years Editor of UNITED EVANGELICAL ACTION, has moved into the important responsibilities of the Managing Editor of CHRISTIANITY TODAY . . . . The new men's dormitory at Whitworth College in Spokane, Washington, has been named Arend Hall in honor of Albert Arend, former vice-president of the International Society . . . . Ellen L. Heacock, of Colorado, first award winner in Division A of the 1957 Citizenship Contest, has won a Danforth Foundation Award along with a Gates Scholarship, which she will be using to attend Central College at Pella, Iowa.

BE A BOOSTER . . . Here is your opportunity to earn some very valuable and attractive awards. Select the award you want to earn . . . set your own goal . . . and get busy. . . . Just as soon as you enroll as a Booster you are eligible to secure subscriptions to THE CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR WORLD and to begin accumulating points toward your award. Write to Phyllis I. Rike, Editor, THE CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR WORLD, 1221 East Broad Street, Columbus 16, Ohio.

"I CAN DO ALL THINGS THROUGH CHRIST . . ." No mere aggregation of words and phrases is Philippians 4:13 to Gertrude Wright, Alabama Christian Endeavor leader temporarily in New York City. Paul's stirring words are alive and real to Gertrude, the victim of a crippling automobile accident in June. She and other Alabama leaders were returning happily from Oak Mountain where they had been checking over arrangements for their annual summer camp and conference. She found herself helpless and one might think hopeless, flat on her back, unable to move, in a hospital bed. Doctors, despairing of the future, were themselves strengthened by her faith and her declaration, "I can do it." "Trusting in the Lord Jesus Christ for strength" was more real now to Gertrude than ever before, and visiting her recently we discovered her showing a remarkable recovery. "Through Christ, I can do all things," is her witness to all who come in contact with her: visitors, doctors, and other patients. Her new address: Miss Gertrude Wright, New York University, Bellevue Medical Center, Department of Physical Medicine, 400 East 34th Street, New York 16, New York.

Harold Westerhoff

Christian Endeavor's Citizenship Contest

A LETTER TO MY EDITOR

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Speak for Christian Citizenship!

The Albert H. Diebold Awards totalg $1,000 in cash plus two free trips to e 45th International Christian Endeav- Convention in Philadelphia will be varded to the winning youth in Chrisn Endeavor's eighth Citizenship Const.

The contest is under the direction of obert C. Ross, citizenship director of e International Society of Christian ndeavor.

A generous gift from Albert H. Dield, a Christian layman of New York ty, makes possible Christian Endeav-'s current Citizenship Crusade, which cludes the contest.

The contest will promote Christian inciples among men and will interest uth in combating the evils of comunism, liquor, narcotics, gambling and ejudice. It will encourage youth and itors, and thereby entire communities, speak for Christian citizenship.

asis of Awards

Winners will be determined by the erits of "A Letter to My Editor" on the bject SPEAK FOR CHRISTIAN CITIZNSHIP! along with a Christian Citinship Service Record of the individual. There will be two divisions in the mpetition. All youth who are in the 12th grade or below on February 2, 1959, will be judged in Division A. Those who have completed the 12th grade but have not reached their 25th birthday by that date will be eligible to compete in Division B.

Similar awards will be given in each division. In each state or province a boy or girl will be chosen as the winner in each division and then will be eligible for competition in the nine regions of North America. Each regional winner will be in the final judging for top international awards.

The first award in each division will be $200 in cash plus a grant (to a maximum of $200) for expenses of attending the 45th International Christian Endeavor Convention in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, July 6-11, 1959. Special recognition will be given to contest winners at the convention.

The second award will be $100 in cash and the third $50 in each division. For the next six runners-up in the international finals in each division there will be prizes of $25. Certificates of Recognition and special award emblems will be presented to the winners of all state and provincial contests.

Honor Certificates will be presented to all other qualified participants who complete their "Letters" and Service Records.

Make Nominations Now

Youth desiring to enter the contest may be nominated by an adult, by another young person, or by themselves. The official nomination form must be sent to the International Society of Christian Endeavor, 1221 East Broad Street, Columbus 16, Ohio, by February 2, 1959.

The "Letter" and Service Record must be received by International Headquarters no later than February 27, 1959. This is also the last date to send "Letters" to local newspaper editors. Announcement of the top winners will be made by April 27, 1959.

Elaine L. Kozar of Ambridge, Pennsylvania, took first honors in Division A of the contest this year. Top winner in Division B was Walter A. Baker of Columbia, Kentucky, a student at Harvard University.

Further information concerning the contest may be secured by writing to the International Society of Christian Endeavor or by contacting leaders of state and provincial unions. Citizenship directors for each union are in charge of promotion of the contest and the judging in their own areas.

NOMINATION FORM

Send to Citizenship Director, International Society of Christian Endeavor, 1221 East Broad Street, Columbus 16, Ohio

Valid only if postmarked no later than February 2, 1959

OTE: You may be nominated by an adult, by another young person, or you may nominate yourself. PLEASE PRINT

ease enter _____ in Christian Endeavor's Citizenship Contest.
(Name)

nd all information to the contestant at _____
(Number and Street) (City, Zone, State)

Disregard the following if you are nominating yourself) I agree to encourage my nominee to complete the "Letter" and Service Record.

_____
(Name and Address of Person Making Nomination)

Philadelphia Convention Committee Organized and Ready to Work

Pennsylvania Christian Endeavorers are making great plans to entertain the youth of North America at the 45th International Christian Endeavor Convention in Philadelphia next July.

Meetings of the local committee are being held regularly, under the direction of Co-Chairmen John R. Harper and Arch J. McQuilkin.

Vice-chairmen of the Philadelphia Convention Committee include Frances M. Becker (registrations), Gordon McMordie (arrangements), John Thuss (promotion), and J. Allen Tucker (finance). Mr. Tucker is also serving as treasurer, with Edward H. Braun as secretary. Harold Pittman, president of the Pennsylvania Union, and E. Herman Brackbill, International Society regional vice-president, are also members of the committee. Warren G. Hoopes, Sr., is representing the Pennsylvania Union on the committee.

Headquarters hotel will be the Benjamin Franklin, located just two blocks from Independence Hall in the heart of downtown Philadelphia. All daytime sessions will be held here.

Evening mass meetings will be held at the Baptist Temple, Broad and Berks Streets.

The convention will open Monday evening, July 6, and close with the mass meeting Saturday, July 11. Each morning there will be Quiet Hour services, conferences and general sessions. Other features include denominational meetings, special luncheons, recreational activities, and sight-seeing tours. A program is planned for Junior leaders each morning with a Junior Convention on Saturday.

Program Details Announced Soon

Members of the Philadelphia Program Committee, under the direction of Bishop R. W. Rash, chairman, are now completing program plans. Announcement will be made soon of the fine speakers and leaders secured for the convention. The program promises to be outstanding.

A registration contest for unions and union registrars will get under way in November. State and provincial unions will vie for honors. Many registrars have already been appointed to urge youth to sign up for Philadelphia. Registration fee is $4.00. Those registering early will receive additional information as it becomes available.

Philadelphia and Pennsylvania leaders are making great plans to entertain the thousands of delegates next July. Already attractive posters are being placed locally announcing "Sign on the Line . . . for Philadelphia '59." News releases are being sent regularly to outlets throughout the state, and enthusiasm is high.

An Explanation— Not an Apology

Twenty to twenty-five years ago everyone was talking about the high cost of living. This was due to the fact that practically everything one purchased was at a higher price.

The cost has continued to rise so that today it is the highest in history. The dollar of 1927 has devalued to the extent that it is now worth only sixty cents, based on the consumer price index published by the United States Department of Labor. Many folk have become calloused to the higher cost of living and no longer question it.

It was in 1927 that the International Society of Christian Endeavor inaugurated the membership plan at a rate of $10.00 yearly. Despite considerably higher costs of operation the rate has remained the same. However, we have come to the time that we cannot render the best service with the maximum results without increased revenue.

The membership plan, to a very large extent, finances the operation of the Society. Therefore, as co-partners and co-workers together we ask that you join the leaders in approving the increased membership cost of $15.00.

In responding to God's call to render service unto Him, we must meet whatever conditions confront us, even to paying more devalued dollars to balance a budget.

We give expression of thanks to our thousands of loyal friends who steadfastly support the cause and who do not require an apology, but do appreciate an explanation.

Norman Klauder
Chairman, Finance Committee

CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR WEEK—*January 25 to February 1, 1959*

February 2 will mark the 78th birthday of Christian Endeavor. Now is the ti for societies and unions to make preparations for an outstanding celebration of this i portant anniversary.

"In the Household of God" is the theme for the 1959 Christian Endeavor We observance. Based on Ephesians 2:19, the services of the week will emphasize churc manship.

This week offers opportunity to dramatize the place and purpose of youth in t program of the Church and the community. It focuses attention upon the responsibil youth have to the Church and the Church to youth.

On Denominational Day, Sunday, January 25, youth will seek to appreciate t history and work of their own church. On Christian Endeavor Day, Sunday, February it is suggested that groups join together in a consecration service using the theme, "I Christ and the Church." This will be the climax of the week.

The 1959 Christian Endeavor Week Packet is now ready and is an invaluable in making plans. It contains a manual packed full of ideas and suggestions, party pla banquet helps, publicity releases, and an order blank for radio and television scripts. I only 50c the complete packet can be yours. Order from the International Society Christian Endeavor, 1221 East Broad Street, Columbus 16, Ohio.

5th Anniversary

WORLDWIDE BIBLE READING

Thanksgiving to Christmas

Again the American Bible Society is ponsoring Worldwide Bible Reading from hanksgiving to Christmas. The readings sted below will be used by millions around ie world.

"The BOOK That LIVES" is the theme f this year's program. It emphasizes the ower of God's Word to change the lives f men.

OVEMBER

7 Thanksgiving	Psalm 23:1-6
8	Psalm 27:1-14
9	Psalm 46:1-11
0 Advent Sunday	Psalm 103:1-22

ECEMBER

	Psalm 121:1-8
	Isaiah 40:1-31
	Isaiah 53:1-12
	Isaiah 55:1-13
	Micah 6:6-15
	Matthew 5:1-16
Sunday	Matthew 5:17-48
	Matthew 6:1-15
	Matthew 6:16-34
	Matthew 7:1-20
	Luke 10:1-42
	Luke 15:1-32
	Luke 24:1-53
Universal Bible Sunday	John 3:1-21
	John 3:22-36
	John 14:1-14
	Romans 8:1-39
	Romans 12:1-21
	I Corinthians 13:1-13
	Ephesians 6:1-24
Sunday	Philippians 4:1-23
	James 1:1-27
	I John 3:1-24
	John 1:1-18
Christmas	Luke 2:1-52

or those who want to continue reading e Bible the last six days of the year, these ssages are recommended.

	John 1:19-34
	John 1:35-51
Sunday	John 4:1-26
	John 4:27-42
	Hebrews 11:1-16
	Hebrews 11:17-40

Read your Bible every day!

Keep the Quiet Hour.

C. E. Conventions And Conferences

OVEMBER

9—Missouri, St. Louis

ECEMBER

7—Christian Endeavor Executives' Conference and Program Council, Columbus, Ohio

New Awards Program Offers Opportunities for Boosters

Many young people are proving that it is easy to secure valuable awards by telling others about Christian Endeavor's official publication, THE CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR WORLD.

As part of the CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR WORLD Awards Program youth under 25 years of age are enrolling as Boosters. For each dollar turned in for new subscriptions to "the Voice of Christian Endeavor" they receive one point toward the award of their choice.

Awards include Christian Endeavor rings, jackets and supplies, transistor radios, phonographs, cameras, etc., plus a special award of $100 toward expenses of attending the 1959 International Convention in Philadelphia. More details are given in the Awards Program folder.

Boosters have secured 180 new subscriptions since this program began in June. These young people have received 59 free Bonus Awards for their efforts and 26 youth now have points accumulated toward awards.

These are the Boosters enrolled to date:

District of Columbia
Dorothy Jackson, Washington, D.C.
Tracey Matthew, Washington, D.C.
Charlene Ruth Cummings, Washington, D.C.
Betty Seegers, Washington, D.C.
Romaine Ward, Washington, D.C.

Indiana
Judith Kay Hobbs, Huntington
Robert Hudson, Crown Point
Earl Stricker, Huntington

Massachusetts
Bonnie Farwell, Brockton

Michigan
Ronald Bush, Kalamazoo
Howard Lance, Garden
Lola McClain, Muskegon
James Ovenshire, Clarksville
Marty Talsma, Grandville
Robert Thomas, Kalamazoo

Minnesota
Bill Hay, Duluth

Missouri
Bess Gamm, Bowling Green

New Jersey
Kenneth Hammett, Paterson
Evelyn Olsen, Princeton

New York
Carleen Alhart, Rochester
William Batcher, Douglaston
Robert R. Beattie, Jr., Lancaster
Barbara Bolton, Great Neck
James Edgar, Tarrytown
Carol E. Gates, Derby
Cynthia Gondin, Great Neck
Robert Haines, Kingston
Nancy Howard, Hempstead
Elliott Kraemer, Ridgewood
Robert Kung, Little Neck
Paul Mosher, Pelham
Gary Pinzel, Angola
Roger Robinson, North Tarrytown
Janet Wakely, Tillson
Toni Whitten, Huntington

North Carolina
Brenda Teague, Liberty

Ohio
Judy Ellen Gano, Wickliffe

Ontario
Gerald Hallman, Blair
Edna Hilborn, New Dundee
William F. Thompson, Toronto

Oregon
Donna Craber, The Dalles

Pennsylvania
Janice Ditterline, Allentown
L. Roy Ocker, Harrisburg
Beverly Stephens, Allentown
Leota Voelker, Charleroi
Jean Walker, Philadelphia

Virginia
Doris June Kelly, Roanoke

England
Ted Dennison, London

Miss Phyllis I. Rike, Editor
THE CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR WORLD
1221 East Broad Street
Columbus 16, Ohio

Please enroll me as a BOOSTER in the Awards Program for THE CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR WORLD. I understand this qualifies me to work for the many valuable awards offered. Send me the Awards Program folder plus subscription blanks and samples of "the Voice of Christian Endeavor"—I want to get to work RIGHT NOW. My position in Christian Endeavor is _____. Hurry up!

My Name _____

Street Address _____

City _____ Zone _____ State _____

Church or Union _____ Age _____

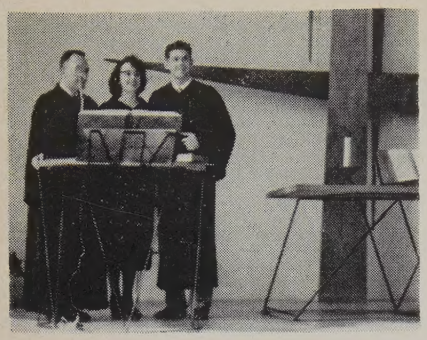
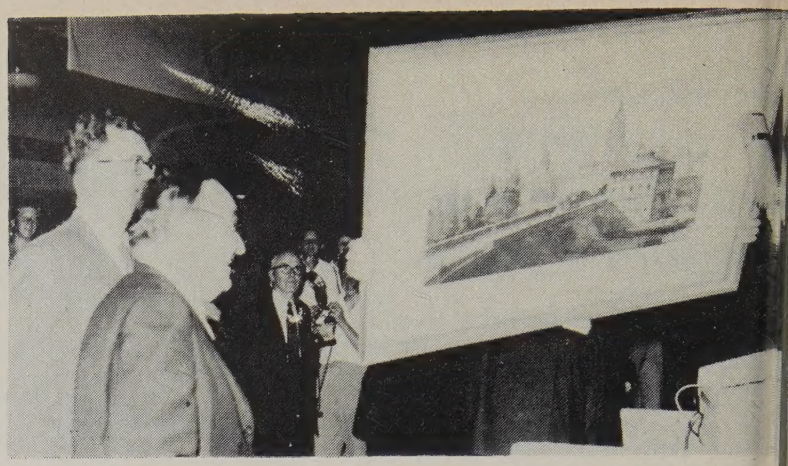


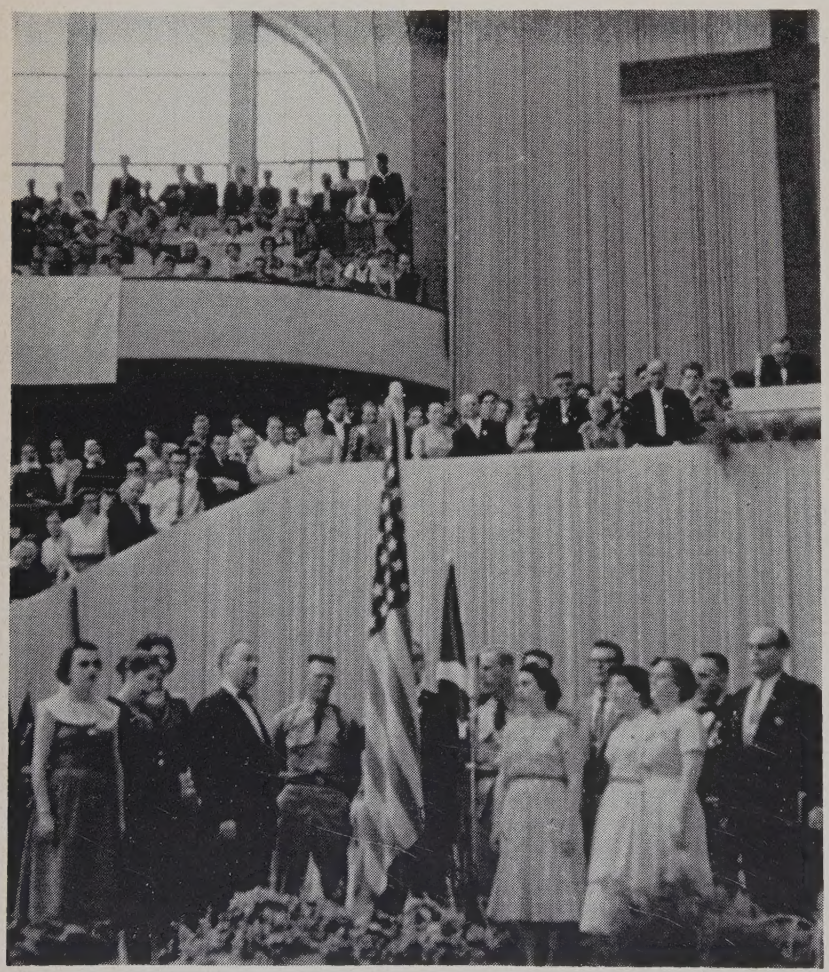
Photo by Mildred A. L. Christqau

Dr. Earle W. Gates (left) with Rev. and Mrs. Wesley Brown at special service at Protestant Pavilion, Brussels World's Fair.



Dr. Daniel A. Poling receives picture of Frankfurt from German leaders at closing convention session.

More Reports from Frankfurt



United States delegates answered the Roll Call of Nations by singing "Living for Jesus."

Christian Endeavor leader give impressions o 13th World's Convention and Christian Endeavor world-wi

Timothy J. Kribs, associate preside of the International Society of Chri tian Endeavor, says. . . .

How thrilling to leave the hotel af breakfast and go by streetcar down streets of Frankfurt to the Festival H Trying to converse with the streetcar c ductors who spoke little or no English ways made the ride interesting and our terest never ceased to be captivated during the day with the busy convent schedule.

Quiet Hour began at 8:30 with sing message and prayers in many langua The brass choir was always on hand gave a great lift to the singing and thousands of German young people tainly could sing!

The messages of the convention w given in at least two languages—Gerr and English. On Friday morning the Q Hour message was brought by Rev. Pe Giminez, president of the Spanish Un He delivered the message in Spanish, t it was translated into English and Gerr Sunday morning in place of Quiet H there was an 8:00 Communion Servic felt it was one of the most inspiring s ices of the convention because it dem strated the unity of Christians around Lord's Table no matter what langu they speak or where they live.

Each morning of the convention at 1 was a general convention session. There always a good song service prior to the

. . . *The vital impact of Frankfurt 1958 will be felt around the world* . . .

ddresses. Two addresses at a session ounds terrible to us because we often have rouble sitting through one 20 minute nessage, but the German young people eemed to love every minute of every nessage. I wish we had the dedication and eal that was all around us at the Frankurt Convention.

The German young people have a dediation to the work of Christ that is a goal or all Christians in North America. They vouldn't miss a session of the convention nd put up with all kinds of hardship in rder to even attend the convention. Their ctions bear witness for Christ.

Sunday morning the 10 o'clock service vas broadcast over the radio. The band nd chorus helped lift praises to our God nd the message broadcast to German earers all over the land proclaimed again hat Christ is the Light of the World.

The Quiet Hour services were conducted rom the lower platform which seemed to raw us closer than during the other essions, when the speakers were on the latform which was on the level of the first alcony.

Every message during the convention mphasized in a new and different way ne fact of Christ, the Light of the World. lways it was emphasized that Christ said, I am the light of the world," but that He lso said, "You are the light of the world."

Christ is the light of the world and rom Him we receive the light that we ear to those around us, "Let *your light so* hine before men that they may see *your* ood works and glorify your Father who in heaven."

ev. J. Wesley Siebert, past president f the Canadian Christian Endeavor nion, tells his experiences. . . .

As one thinks back to the inspiring days f the convention, one of the things that ontinues to make one marvel is the mature ense of self-discipline exercised by the housands of German teen-agers at the essions. They responded to the early 8:30 A.M.) Quiet Hour services and with atience and deep interest sat through the ay-long addresses and conferences until :30 at night. This usually meant also tting through addresses in unknown nguages, awaiting the repetition by the fficial interpreter.

One just cannot quite visualize a North merican group of teen-agers being either illing or able to follow through such a renuous intellectual and spiritual diet. In rivate conversation with many of them, was deeply impressed with their grasp nd understanding of religious subjects and heological concepts. These German young eople are no spiritual illiterates.

Thousands of them came to the convenon by bicycle, motor-bike or on foot. Durg the convention they were delighted ith the most meager food rations and acommodations. They were an effervescent nd robust group that enjoyed the fact of ving. They impressed one as being unpoiled, not satiated with too many gadgets nd creature comforts.

Most of them were eager photographers and autograph hunters. As soon as you were spotted as an "Auslander" (from outside their country), you were surrounded with happy, smiling young people, graciously and most courteously asking for your signature in their program.

On Sunday morning it was my privilege to preach in a well-filled church of the German Baptist Communion in Frankfurt. Here, too, the typical German graciousness was everywhere in evidence, from the pastor, the Rev. Kerstern, and his happy wife to the smallest child present. They received the message of my personal Christian faith with evident understanding and appreciation.

Altogether, Frankfurt was a memorable experience.

Harold E. Westerhoff, general secretary of both the International Society and the World's Union, reports on Christian Endeavor around the world . . .

At the World's Christian Endeavor Convention, the thirteenth, held this summer in Frankfurt, Germany, again and again there was in evidence the true international, interdenominational, interracial character of the movement—ecumenicity at its very best—with Christ at the very center.

At Frankfurt Mr. William J. Sharpe of Great Britain, general secretary of Area II, gave illuminating reports from countries in that area. Harold E. Westerhoff, general secretary, with special responsibility for Area I, told of work there.

Some of the highlights from Area II include: AFRICA . . . Christian Endeavorers from many lands working among the nationals, and in the many isolated outpost areas. Strongest on the Belgian Congo and Sierra Leone. AUSTRIA . . . in the minority in this predominately Catholic country. Societies from Carinthia in the south to Salzberg in the north. Seeking the services of a general secretary. EGYPT . . . Christian Endeavor first introduced here in 1891. There are now more than 130 societies with emphasis on evangelism, education, youth conferences, and caravaning.

GERMANY . . . Perhaps one of the strongest links in the chain of unions in Area II today. Leading the way in tent missions. President Arno Pagel is the untiring "Ambassador-at-Large" for Christian Endeavor in all of Europe. Diversified publications are widely received for all ages. GREAT BRITAIN . . . Officially the movement here is the Christian Endeavour Union of Great Britain and Ireland. During the recent Jubilee Year it numbered among its patrons a Bishop of the Established Church, an ex-Minister of the Crown, and a Methodist as its president. Maintains a strong publishing emphasis, not forgetting work in overseas fields.

INDIA . . . Federated into ten provincial unions, the India Christian Endeavor Union embraces nearly 2,400 societies. A Traveling Field Secretary program is being aggressively pursued, supported largely by Endeavorers in Pennsylvania and in Great Britain. Thirty-one trainees have been helped by courses lasting six days, in Vellore. ITALY . . . There are five large groups of 50 societies within the Youth Department of the Waldensian Church, also with relationships in the Baptist and Methodist churches. JAMAICA . . . Maintains close ties with Great Britain. A recent "Endeavour Day" was celebrated in the form of a religious broadcast over Radio Jamaica. NORWAY . . . Maintains an official headquarters in Oslo, publishing a syllabus on Bible Studies which has been well received and widely used.

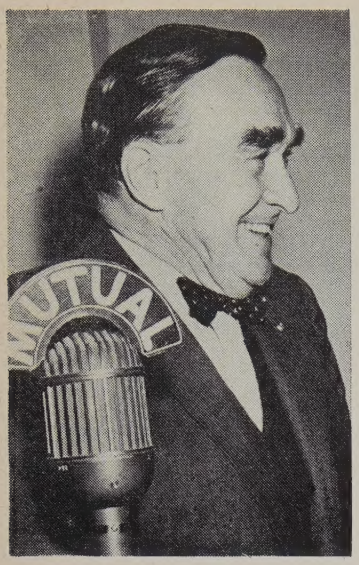
PAKISTAN . . . Societies are emphasizing Christian Citizenship. Cottage prayer-meetings are also featured. Here, too, support comes from Endeavorers in other lands. SPAIN . . . The last convention, in Valencia, was attended by representatives from 40 societies. In addition to the publication of a monthly magazine, there is also published a Year Book, containing topics and programs for society meetings. Summer camps are featured when government permission can be obtained. SYRIA AND LEBANON . . . serves largely within the Union of the Armenian Churches of the Near East. Supports a full-time Christian Endeavor evangelist. TRINIDAD . . . Featuring publications of the British Union and of the International Society, this union maintains two libraries, one in the south and the other in the north of the colony. They foster regional rallies, radio broadcasts, Leaders' Training Courses and a Christian Endeavor Arts Festival.

Then on to Area I. The INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY is composed of societies and unions in Canada, Mexico, and the United States, including Alaska and Hawaii, each national area with its own dynamic program carried on by state and provincial unions. Biennial conventions, regional conferences, a full run on publishing, and a Christian Citizenship Crusade is the present program and emphasis, lifting up evangelism, and leadership training. One of the most unique societies in all the world is located in the Hanson's Disease Colony at Kalaupapa, on the Island of Molokai, Hawaii.

GUATEMALA . . . The youth of Christian Endeavor here support their own field secretary. Materials from other lands are translated into Spanish for local use. SOUTH AMERICA . . . Promising work is carried on in Peru, Colombia, Costa Rica and other Spanish speaking countries. AUSTRALIA . . . A great national union serves here, with several state unions ministering to local needs. Each state union publishes its own official organ. World's Union President Poling describes the 1958 Australian convention as "one of the most inspiring I have attended anywhere in the world." NEW ZEALAND . . . Here the most unusual societies are the five "Outpost Societies," made of those who have gone out to isolated farms and sheep ranches. They meet by mail, sending in verses and comments, coming together only once a year.

THE SOUTH PACIFIC . . . A virile work is being carried on in Tonga, Samoa, Fiji, New Guinea and elsewhere. Topics

(Please turn to Page 18, Col. 3)



Dr. Daniel A. Poling

"DR. POLING ANSWERS" ON THE AIR

A new 15-minute weekly radio program

Hear him each Sunday over stations listed below

All schedules are given for local time and all are P.M.—unless otherwise noted

ALABAMA
Decatur WMSL 4:15
Florence WJOI 4:15
Haleyville WJBB 6:45
Sylacauga WFEB 4:15

ARIZONA
Phoenix KOY 6:30
Tucson KTUC 3:15

CALIFORNIA
Los Angeles KHJ 3:15
San Diego KGB 4:45
San Francisco KFRC 4:15**

COLORADO
Denver KDEN 10:15 a.m.

CONNECTICUT
Hartford WPOP 6:15

DELAWARE
Wilmington WTUX 4:15

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
Washington WGMS 9:00 a.m.

FLORIDA
Jacksonville WPEG 5:15
Miami WKAT 7:15
St. Petersburg-Tampa WTSP 7:45
West Palm Beach WIRK 5:15

GEORGIA
Atlanta WYZE 6:15
Griffin WKEU 7:15
Newnan WCOH 6:45

IDAHO
Boise KGEM 11:00 a.m.

ILLINOIS
Chicago WLS 6:30**

IOWA
Des Moines KWDM 4:15

KENTUCKY
Louisville WTMT 10:15 a.m.
Maysville WFTM 5:15

LOUISIANA
New Orleans WTPS 8:40

MARYLAND
Baltimore WWIN 9:45

MASSACHUSETTS
Boston WNAC 10:30

MICHIGAN
Detroit CKLW 5:15

MISSISSIPPI
Jackson WRBC 6:00

MONTANA
Butte KOPR 10:15 a.m.
Helena KCAP 10:15 a.m.

NEVADA
Reno KATO 7:00

NEW YORK
Hornell WLEA 6:15
New York WOR 7:30
Niagara Falls WJJL 6:15

NORTH CAROLINA
Raleigh WRAL 6:15
Roanoke Rapids WCBT 5:15

OHIO
Akron WHKK 5:15
Chillicothe WBEX 5:15
Cleveland WJW 7:15
Columbus WMNI 10:00

OREGON
Coos Bay KOOS 6:15
Portland KPOJ 7:00

PENNSYLVANIA
Philadelphia WDAS 7:00
Pittsburgh-McKeesport WMCK 7:35
Pottsville WPPA 6:15

RHODE ISLAND
Providence WEAN 7:30 a.m.

TENNESSEE
Clarksville WJZM 4:15

TEXAS
Borger KHUZ 4:15
Dallas-Fort Worth WRR 4:15

UTAH
Salt Lake City KALL 10:15 a.m.

VIRGINIA
Clifton Forge WCFV 5:15
Culpeper WCVA 7:15
Norfolk WLOW 5:15
Richmond WRNL 7:30

WASHINGTON
Bellingham KPUG 2:15
Seattle KVI 2:15

WYOMING
Cheyenne KVWO 3:15

**Check with radio schedule in your newspaper, or with your local station.

Dr. Daniel A. Poling, president of the World's Christian Endeavor Union, is now heard every Sunday on Mutual Broadcasting System. His new "Dr. Poling Answers" program uses queries addressed to him by friends and readers throughout the world. Dr. Poling, editor of CHRISTIAN HERALD magazine, initiated his broadcast career 32 years ago in New York City while pastor of Marble Collegiate Church. In 1956 his "Opportunity Is Yours" series was aired extensively.

Outdoor Poster Deadline Is Near

November 15 is the date for placing orders for Christian Endeavor's 1959 four-color outdoor posters.

As part of the Outdoor Poster Program hundreds of these colorful messengers wil be placed on streets and highways throughout the United States and Canada during January and February.

The program is made possible through contribution postings by local poster plant owners, who are members of the Outdoor Advertising Association of America, Inc.

By providing money to cover the cost of posters, Endeavorers can help make available the spiritual and leadership training opportunities of the movement to more young people. To learn how to share in the outdoor poster program, contact the International Society of Christian Endeavor or the chairman in the state or provincial union.

Examined Your Will Lately?

In your estate planning, remember Christian Endeavor International in your will, that its ministry may be undergirded in the days ahead.

A Sample Bequest:

I give and bequeath to the International Society of Christian Endeavor, Columbus, Ohio, the sum of _____ Dollars.

For information write to:

Harold E. Westerhoff, General Secretary
INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY OF CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR
1221 East Broad Street, Columbus 16, Ohio

ALIBIOLOGY

Are You Guilty?

By Cecil A. Jeffery, Extension Secretary
International Society of Christian Endeavor

Its Characteristics!

The coach was glum and dejected. His eam had just lost a game they were favored o win with ease. He seemed to resent the ointed questions the reporters fired at im. Finally, he became talkative and pro-eeded to give some reasons for his team's ailure. He cited certain plays that failed o click and named certain players that ailed to work. If he seemed upset then he nust have been downright mad the next norning for the newspaper story frankly tated, "The coach gave several alibis for lefeat."

Sometimes it seems we have developed a et pattern of explaining away failures, osses, and inactivity in Christian Endeavor ircles. I choose to call it ALIBIOLOGY. An alibi is an excuse that's cooked up, ut is always half-baked. We hear state-nents such as "I forgot," "I didn't have ime," "I'll do it later." Now it is a known act that notebooks are sold for people with hort memories, that everyone has at his isposal a twenty-four hour day and that 's too late already. Then we hear this attern, 'This is not the right time," "We ave lost all our leaders," "There seems o be a lack of interest." It is interesting o note that those who use these excuses eldom name the "right time," never tell hy they didn't train some potential leader-hip before graduation time, and of course here is no need to explain the lack f interest.

When we use the tools of procrastination nd complacency we are doomed to a pro-ram of delays and doubts, of substitutes nd sidetracks. If we want to see things appen we must help make them happen. Lord Byron once said, "It is not what have done that troubles me as much as hat I might have done." People judge us y what we have done. Our time here is mited, hence we should waste none of it. n II Thessalonians 3:13 we read, 'But ye, rethren, be not weary in well doing." It ould do us good to read Ephesians 2:10 very day for a month and ask God to irect our service for Him.

s Consequences!

Apathy and the take-it-easy attitude are eadening. To delay actions, set aside plans, postpone events, produces the do-it-later hilosophy that leads to never, never land. hese are the fruits of alibiology.

The road to success is dotted with many mpting parking places. Things that divert ur attention and take our eyes off the al make us miss the mark. Members who irk their duty, fail to complete assign-ents, or are indifferent and shrug off their sponsibilities, are the product of the sin alibiology.

In such a group there is no sense of ac-mplishment. Members side-step hardships nd embrace the dubious art of easy going. hus Christian Endeavor falls victim and s organization is doomed to criticism.

Make no mistake about it, responsibilities ward others are the greatest blessings God sends us. Discipleship demands discipline. The follower of Jesus is always aware of His call, "If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me." The greatest use of life is to spend it for something that outlasts it. Let us not measure Christian Endeavor but rather let us take our own measure. Sometimes we become so self-satisfied with listless living that we produce only lifeless leadership. Successful accomplishments are products of enthusiasm plus work.

Are young people allergic to your Christian Endeavor, or are they interested, creative, alive and wonderful? Christian Endeavor trains those who willingly serve but the training is incomplete and inadequate if it does not lead to assuming responsibilities. A true Endeavorer will never let a day go by without doing something for God.

Its Remedies!

There is a Chinese proverb which reads, "The man who removes a mountain begins by carrying away small stones." To make a list of well known remedies would not answer specific problems but we can consider some basic ideas. Ideas are funny things; they never work unless you do.

Let us rethink and reappraise our task. We need to become a dynamic, redemptive force in our world. The world will never be won by pastors alone. We need a deeper understanding of the scope of evangelism and of our own personal witness. What are our ultimate aims? We should be masters in the art of priority—putting first things first—putting Christ first.

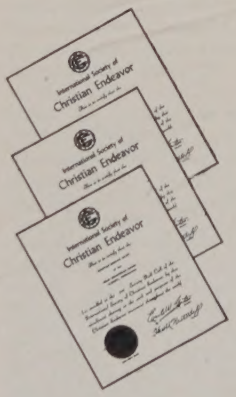
Sometimes we become preoccupied with producing a program. We can get terribly concerned about methods, organization and techniques of promotion and fail to respond to the call of Jesus Christ in the needs of our times. Let us concern ourselves with the spiritual facets of our Christian faith.

How may we hit our targets? Have every program absolutely to the very last notch of perfection. Make every project interesting and meaningful. Organization is a means to an end. It must be a vital, active channel through which people can carry on God's business. If we do not incorporate the whole life in the church we haven't captured our young people.

How may we enhance our leadership? Demonstrate an enthusiasm about Christian Endeavor and its program. Show your concern by supporting it, praying for it and working in it. Don't be a storehouse, be a giver. Don't get bogged down with non-essentials and red tape. Let God's great shears cut all entangling fetters. Don't get so absorbed in minor details that you lose sight of major objectives. Determine to do a Christ-honoring job.

In the book of Nehemiah, we read in the 4th chapter this significant statement in verse six, "so built we the wall—for the people had a mind to work." We have the promise of Hebrews 6:10 and God is not slack concerning His promise. (Read II Peter 3:9.) Let us keep Christ sovereign in our life, our work, our thoughts. Refuse to be defeated or discouraged, and erase from our vocabulary the word "can't."

If we think of our leadership in Christian Endeavor in terms of returning to Him the talents He has loaned us we will discover that we have the secret of overcoming alibiology.


International Society of Christian Endeavor
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HONOR SOCIETIES

Since the last list was published of societies and unions who have officially become members of the International Society of Christian Endeavor by financial support during Membership Mobilization, a number of others have participated in the 1958 Society Roll Call.

Unions or societies listed below contributed during the period from May 1 through September 30. Those receiving red seals have given $25 and those securing blue seals have given $10.

Red Seal

Greenleafton Reformed Church, Ostrander, Minnesota

Blue Seal

Young People's, Lebec Community Church, Lebec, California

Kanaana Hou, Kalaupapa, Molokai, Territory of Hawaii

Illinois Union, Springfield, Illinois (Memorial for Mrs. Billy Sunday)

Youth Fellowship, First Reformed Church, Boyden, Iowa

Intermediate, Maplewood Reformed Church, Holland, Michigan

Junior, Griggstown Reformed Church, Princeton, New Jersey

Monticello United Brethren Church, Spencerville, Ohio

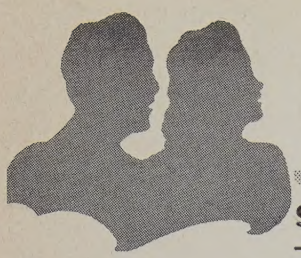
Bethel Evangelical United Brethren Church, Lickdale, Pennsylvania

Junior High, Lansdale Schwenkfelder Church, Lansdale, Pennsylvania

Keystone League, Reich's Evangelical Congregational Church, Marietta, Pennsylvania

Intermediate, Primitive Methodist Church, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Georgetown Branch, Grand Cayman, British West Indies



I Have an Altar

No. 1 in a Series: "Precious Possessions"

Deuteronomy 6:4-9; Exodus 27:1-8; Matthew 14:22,23

Senior-Young People (15-24 Years) *DECEMBER 7*

*Comments by Dr. W. W. McKinney**

Promoting the Meeting

During the next four meetings we will pause to think appreciatively of four of our most "precious possessions." They are God's gifts to us. They cost us nothing. They are offered to us for our spiritual enrichment. They are given to all who will accept and appreciate and use them.

Advertise the meeting with various posters announcing: "God's Great Give-Away Sale" or "Four Special Year-End Bargains." Let the exact topic be left to the imagination, stimulated by curiosity. Invitations to the meeting could be in the form of free admission tickets to a bazaar.

Suggested Program Outline

Pre-Prayer Service
Prelude
Hymn: *Jesus Calls Us*
Psalm of Worship: Psalm 96
Consecration Roll Call
Hymn: *Dear Lord and Father of Mankind*
Sentence Prayers
Announcements and Offering
Hymn: *There Is a Place of Quiet Rest*
Scriptural Setting:
Leader—Exodus 27:1-8
Second Speaker—Deuteronomy 6:4-9
Third Speaker—Matthew 14:22,23
Group Discussion
Consecration Hymn: *O Jesus, I Have Promised*
Benediction

Guidance for Leader

Precede your reading of the passage from Exodus with a brief review of the Israelites' flight from Egypt and their journey toward the promised land. Relate a few examples of their divine deliverance from hunger, thirst and danger which should be the occasions of thanksgiving to God and for regular services of worship. Now read the directions for building an altar which could be carried from place to place as the Israelites resumed their journey (Exodus 27:1-8).

We all need a special place for worship. No race, however low or high in the scale of cultural development, has been found that does not have some form or place of worship. Prayer and sacrifice are the two universal elements in worship.

Explain that an "altar" is merely something that has been set apart, either in a church, a home or in nature, as a special place for worship. It helps make us more conscious of the presence of God. It lifts us into an emotion of worship by quickening reverence. It assists us to center our mind upon God in worship.

All churches have this focal point of worship. For some it is an altar, adorned with symbols of the presence of God. In others it is a communion table with candles or a cross, calling the worshipper to adoring communion with the Father who reveals Himself in Christ, the living Word. In still others it is the large open Bible, elevated on a central pulpit, dramatizing the presence of God who has spoken in His recorded Word and who still speaks to every listening worshipper. Around any of these three focal points, the presence of God is made real to those who seek to worship God "in spirit and in truth." The awe of the Divine creates the mood of adoration and develops a sense of our need of God's forgiving love and quickening power.

Emphasize that we come to church primarily to worship. Analyze briefly the ritual or order of worship in your church. Show how the prayers, Scripture reading, music, sermon and offering are all parts of a complete experience of worship which includes adoration, confession, supplication, instruction and dedication. The church worship service is God's headquarters for spiritual instruction, an invaluable oasis of reverence and a rewarding haven of peace.

*Dr. McKinney is minister of First Presbyterian Church, Ambridge, Pennsylvania.

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

What effect does worship have on our personal morality?

How would you plan a worship service for your Christian Endeavor society?

How much time should we spend in prayer each day?

Do you find public or private worship most rewarding? Why?

What part of worship brings you closest to God?

Second Scripture Study

Now read Deuteronomy 6:4-9. Every home should have some form of family altar. Moses emphasizes a three-fold technique of religious instruction and urges the use of family conversations, repeated drills under varied circumstances and numerous aids to memory. Family life is blessed by some form of family worship. The family "altar" may be around the dinner table, before or after the meal. It may be in the living room as the family joins in a worship service carried over the radio or TV, or as the family worships in prayer and hymn singing.

It could be a quiet bedtime experience or a short period shared together before breakfast. A family altar of worship helps make home "the dearest spot on earth." Petty misunderstandings and irritations fade before the presence of God as prayers of confession and for Divine guidance rebuke selfishness and still the voice of contention. The family that prays together stays together and keeps out of divorce courts.

Third Scripture Study

Read the third passage, Matthew 14:22, 23. Jesus was worn by the strain of feed- ing and teaching the five thousand. He fe that more important for Him than food o sleep was a prolonged period of soul renew and clarity of conviction in the presence o His Heavenly Father.

Jesus frequently sought an altar of sol tary worship on a mountain, in the Garde of Gethsemane, or in some other secluded spot of nature where He could be alon with God. Hosts of Endeavorers testify tha in summer conferences, during the silenc of the early morning, they have whispere a prayer that was answered in a word o guidance or a new vision of the Eternal.

Jesus advises us to "enter into thy close and shut thy door and pray to thy Fathe who is in secret." To be alone with Go is to enjoy the most rewarding companion ship. We need a personal "altar" of fellow ship where we can "spend much time i secret with Jesus alone."

Group Discussion

Ask different individuals to comme briefly on the following:

1. My most memorable experience in wo ship. Where was it? Why was it so memo able? In what ways did the experience he you?

2. Some effective aids to worship. Peop vary in their tastes, habits and emotion responses. Hence all cannot find any set aids equally helpful. For some people sy bols, ritual and imagery are effective ai to worship. Some approach God b through the imagination as religious em tions are dramatized. Others rely on t intellect as a developer of noble livi through worship. Some are stirred by e thusiastic singing; others by the revere reading of a poem.

In some form or other, most people r on the reading of God's own message, t turning of the soul to God in prayer, me tation upon some helpful truth from t Word of God Himself and the grateful li ing of the voice to God in sacred song.

3. In the Christian Endeavor pledge, promise to pray and read the Bible da Our spiritual life withers and dies unless is fed by contact with God. The Quiet Ho when we set apart a definite period of t day to think God's thoughts and to aw His directing voice in our life, is one of t most vital parts of our Christian Endea program. Worship is both talking and l ening to God.

Closing Illustration

According to a Jewish legend, when Ab ham started on his journeys at night, looked at the stars in the heavens and sa "I will worship the stars." But ere long stars faded behind the clouds. The n night Abraham saw the new moon sail low in the heavens and said: "I will w ship the moon." But the moon in a weeks vanished when her season was o Then he said meditatively: "I will wors God, for He abides forever."

Bible Meditations

M., Dec. 1. Altar of Sacrifice. Romans 12:1,2.
T., Dec. 2. Altar of Love. I John 3:16-18.
W., Dec. 3. Altar of Worship. Psalm 116:12-19.
T., Dec. 4. Altar of Prayer. Matthew 6:5-8.
F., Dec. 5. Altar of Service. Matthew 25:34-40.
S., Dec. 6. Altar of Learning. Matthew 7:24,25.
Sun., Dec. 7. Topic—I Have an Altar. Deuteronomy 6:4-9; Exodus 27:1-8; Matthew 14:22,23.

I Have an Altar

No. 1 in a Series: "Precious Possessions"

Deuteronomy 6:4-9; Exodus 27:1-8

ntermediate (12-14 Years) *DECEMBER 7*

Comments by Frances M. Becker•

What Is an Altar?

What picture comes to your mind when someone mentions the word "altar"? To ome it might be a crude structure of stones, ne piled on the other, with a level surface n top. To others it might be a magnificent tructure within a church building, ornate ith beautiful wood sculpture, massive mar- le foundations, splendid gold and ivory ecorations. To some it means just an ele- ated section of a church auditorium which, y its lovely simplicity and dignity of archi- ecture, is set aside from the rest of the hurch. To all, however, it is a place of orship.

arly Altars

In early Bible days the altar was consid- red a place of sacrifice where God was orshipped with sacrificial gifts, and there- ore it became to the worshipper the place f the Presence of God.

In Genesis 35:1 we read that God said o Jacob, "Arise, go up to Beth-el, and dwell here: and make there an altar unto God." braham, you remember, built an altar in he land of Moriah on which he laid his son, saac, as an evidence of Abraham's complete ith in God (Genesis 22).

Noah, as soon as the flood waters had ubsided, went out of the ark and built an ltar unto the Lord and offered burnt offer- gs on the altar. It was here that God ade a covenant with Noah that never again ould the Lord "curse the ground any more or man's sake" (Genesis 8:20-22).

The altar became the most important part f the home in the early Jewish culture and as frequently the first structure to be built. o important did the building of an altar ecome that there were laws written as to ow an altar should be built and strict ad- erence to those laws was required (Exodus 0:24-26).

hen Jesus Came

After Christ came the clean animals and he clean fowl, which were in Old Testa- ent times offered as burnt offerings upon he altar as part of the worship ceremony nto God, were no longer necessary. Jesus, he spotless Lamb of God, made the su- reme sacrifice for all mankind, so man was ow instructed to fix his eyes upon Jesus, o "believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and hou shalt be saved" (Acts 16:31).

Does that mean that the altar has lost its ignificance as a place of worship? No, but t does mean that the physical props, the angible materials, though frequently lovely nd beautiful, are not basic to true worship. rue worship comes from the heart, and our heart and my heart can be an altar nto God.

Miss Becker is active in Pennsylvania Christian Endeavor and is an elementary school principal in Philadelphia.

A man I know has made an altar
Of his factory bench.
And one has turned the counter in his store
Into a place of sacrifice and holy ministry.
Another still has changed his office desk
Into a pulpit desk, from which to speak and write,
Transforming common place affairs
Into the business of the King.
A Martha in our midst has made
Her kitchen table a communion table.
A postman makes his daily round
A walk in the temple of God . . .

To all of these, each daily happening
Has come to be a whisper from the lips of God,
Each separate task a listening post,
And every common circumstance
A wayside shrine.

—Edgar Tramp

Present-Day Altars

We still use the word "altar" today in relationship to forms of group worship. While each of us individually can worship God on the altar of our heart, yet there is great spiritual strength, power, understanding and comfort to be obtained from worshipping together as a church and as a family.

Frequently we speak of "coming to the altar of the Lord" when we approach the communion table and participate in the Lord's Supper. Here is a hallowed place of worship because Christ commanded us to "do this in remembrance of me. For as often as ye eat this bread and drink this cup ye do show the Lord's death till he come."

An altar is not, however, restricted to the church. Day by day a greater need is recognized for a time, a place and an opportunity for the family to worship together in the home. The family altar has been disappearing from the home like the American buffalo from the prairies and with much sadder consequences.

Too frequently home has become a place where you hang your hat, where you eat and sleep. Is there any wonder, then, that the home, which along with the church has the responsibility for training children in the nurture and admonition of the Lord, is collapsing? You've probably heard this little phrase very often: "A family that prays together, stays together."

For the Quiet Hour

M., Dec. 1. Altar of Sacrifice. Romans 12:1,2.
T., Dec. 2. Altar of Love. I John 3:16-18.
W., Dec. 3. Altar of Worship. Psalm 116:12-19.
T., Dec. 4. Altar of Prayer. Matthew 6:5-8.
F., Dec. 5. Altar of Service. Matthew 25:34-40.
S., Dec. 6. Altar of Learning. Matthew 7:24,25.
Sun., Dec. 7. Topic—I Have an Altar. Deuteronomy 6:4-9; Exodus 27:1-8.

What Can You Do About It?

First, you can ask yourself some questions. Take inventory of your Christian life and face the truth squarely.

1. Do you have a family altar (a time for family worship) in your home?

2. If not, why not?

3. What have you tried to do about it?
   a. Have you prayed about it?
   b. Have you ever suggested prayer, when a problem confronts your family?
   c. Has your family ever seen you read the Bible? (Remember, a good Christian Endeavorer is a member of the Quiet Hour and spends at least fifteen minutes a day in prayer and Bible reading).

4. Is your behavior in the home that of a Christian? If your heart is truly an altar to the Lord, then your life reflects love, service and sacrifice for others.

"Teach me to love Thee as Thine angels love,
One holy passion filling all my frame.
The baptism of the heav'n descended Dove,
My heart an altar and Thy love the flame."

—George Croly

Hints for the Meeting

1. Have someone report on the Old Testament Mosaic Laws relative to constructing an altar (Exodus 20:24-26; Exodus 27:1-8).

2. Have members try making an acrostic. Here's an example: What does worship mean to you?

A lways
L oving
T he
A lmighty
R edeemer

3. Sing some appropriate hymns: *Give of Your Best to the Master, O Worship the King, Sweet Hour of Prayer, Whisper a Prayer* and *I Surrender All.*

4. Make a list of how and where, in your daily life, you might use the precious privilege of worshipping your Saviour, making an altar for Him.

Hymns listed in program outlines in THE CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR WORLD have been selected from CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR SONGS. This book, with an attractive red and white paper cover, contains 113 songs and hymns for youth meetings. Available from International Society of Christian Endeavor, 1221 East Broad Street, Columbus 16, Ohio. Price: 50c each, $5 per dozen, $40 per hundred.

I Have a Book

No. 2 in a Series: "Precious Possessions"

Psalm 119:9-16; John 20:30,31; II Timothy 3:14-17
(Universal Bible Sunday)

Senior-Young People (15-24 Years) *DECEMBER 1*

Comments by Dr. W. W. McKinney

Promoting the Meeting

I have a Book—The Book. Thank God for it. What a precious book it is! There is nothing comparable to it in all literature. Let's advertise that fact in our publicity. Display posters are available from the American Bible Society in New York. Plan a display of Bibles in some room in your church. Enlist the cooperation of church members in borrowing old family Bibles and various translations. The display will be effective advertising and will form a helpful basis of study during the meeting.

Suggested Program Outline

Pre-Prayer Service
Call to Worship: Psalm 95:1,2,6,7
Invocation Hymn: *Joy to the World*
Individual Quotations from the Bible
Sentence Prayers
Hymn: *Break Thou the Bread of Life*
Announcements and Offering
Leader's Opening Remarks
Discussion of Theme
Hymn: *'Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus*
Closing Prayer and Benediction

Leader's Opening Remarks

Tonight we think appreciatively of our second precious possession—The Book. The word "Bible" is the English equivalent of the Greek word "biblos" meaning book. The name was applied to a collection of sacred writings or scriptures which proved to be of such unique greatness that it was called "the Biblos" or the Book, now the Bible.

As we pick up our English Bible, it appears to be one book. In reality, however, it is a grouping together of 66 booklets, written centuries apart by many writers of contrasted abilities. Thirty-nine of these brief booklets were written in Hebrew during the centuries before Christ's birth and are called the Old Testament. The remaining 27 were written in Greek during the first century following the death of Christ and are known as the New Testament.

The first part of our Scripture lesson describes the attitude we young people should have to the Bible and how we should rely upon it. Let us read in unison Psalm 119, verses 9-16. Note we should read the Bible with intense interest, gratitude to God, careful meditation and a willingness to apply its precepts. The second and third passages reveal God's purpose in giving us this Book.

Read John 20:30-31 and II Timothy 3:14-17. God's purpose was to give us a trustworthy guide in morals and religion so that we may know and obey God's will and thus follow daily the pathway which leads to eternal salvation.

The writers of the 66 individual books were inspired or guided by God so that their separate writings, when grouped together by God's Spirit, became the record of a divine, progressive revelation sufficient to lead every earnest seeker after truth to God and salvation. Their messages supplement, never contradict, one another because God was the real Author.

AIMS

1. To recall how we obtained our Bible.
2. To develop a greater appreciation of the Bible as a guide in our daily life.
3. To discover the best ways to study and use the Bible.
4. To meditate on the way God is carrying the message of the Bible to all peoples in all languages.

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

What are your favorite books of the Bible?

What are the advantages of the modern translation?

Which translation do you prefer for home use? For church worship? Why?

In what way has the Bible influenced our national life?

Translated Into Many Languages

The Hebrew Old Testament was translated into Greek about 277 B.C. It is called the Septuagint and is the work of 70 Jewish scholars in Alexandria. When Latin replaced Greek as the popular language, a Latin translation appeared from the pen of Jerome in the fourth century. His famous translation, called the Vulgate, illuminated men's minds throughout the Dark Ages and was one of the chief means of perpetuating and spreading the Christian faith. It was the basic text from which the first translations were made into English, German and other European languages. Cardinal Hugo in 1250 divided the 66 books of the Bible into chapters as they are printed today. The division into verses was not made until three hundred years later.

John Wycliff, about 1320, was the first to translate the whole Bible from the Latin Vulgate into the English language. A few handwritten copies are still preserved. In 1525 William Tyndale translated and printed the New Testament. Ten years later Miles Coverdale translated and printed the entire Bible. The translation which is most familiar to Protestants was made in 1611. It is called the King James or authorized version and is the combined work of 54 English scholars using the oldest Hebrew and Greek manuscripts available at that time.

The entire Bible has now been translated into over 110 languages and the New Testament into 270 additional languages. Parts of the Bible are being translated into a new language every month for a total of over 1,120 dialects. The Bible is rapidly becoming the universal book of mankind.

Scripture References

M., Dec. 8. Attentive Reading. Nehemiah 8:1-3.
T., Dec. 9. The Word of Faith. Romans 10:4-13.
W., Dec. 10. The Word of Power. Hebrews 4:12,13.
T., Dec. 11. The Word of Hope. Romans 15:4.
F., Dec. 12. The Enduring Word. I Peter 1:24,25.
S., Dec. 13. The Good Man's Delight. Psalm 1.
Sun., Dec. 14. Topic—I Have a Book. Psalm 119:9-16; John 20:30,31; II Timothy 3:14-17. (Universal Bible Sunday)

How to Study the Bible

First Speaker

One good way is to memorize Scripture verses and chapters. With God's promise fixed in our memory, we experience His comfort in times of sorrow and His inspiration in our moods of discouragement and disappointment. His words of warning strengthen us in moments of temptation and guide us in testing experiences. His promises help us in our teaching and in testifying to others, as we quote the very words of the Bible. We have a convincing defense when unbelievers question our faith or seek to lead us astray.

However, we must study the background of each text in order to understand fully its message. There is danger in pulling passages of Scripture from their context and joining isolated passages together. We thus get a warped idea of God's message. A simple illustrations turn to Psalm 14:1 which says "there is no God" and to Psalm 116:11 which reads "all men are liars." What is missing in both quotations?

Second Speaker

Since the Bible is composed of 66 books written centuries apart by men of contrasted attainments, we should study the Bible book by book. Some writers were poets, others were lawgivers. Some were prophets, others historians. Some were philosophers, others eyewitnesses of great events. Some were gifted theologians, others were men of ordinary occupations. A book of poetry has a different meaning than a book of law. A book of history and a book of prophecy must be interpreted differently.

Hence we must study each book from the viewpoint and purpose of its author and know why and when the book was written. Select for study a different book each month or each week. Read and re-read it as a whole. Buy a good Bible dictionary and a commentary so that the historical setting and the meaning of difficult words can be better understood. Such careful study will take time but it is a most valuable method of becoming better acquainted with the Book of Books.

Third Speaker

A third way to study God's Word is by observing how God gradually reveals Himself and explains His great purposes and teaching. God made known His will only as rapidly as the Israelites could grasp His messages through Moses and the prophets. Bitter experiences were necessary before the chosen people were willing to listen and understand.

All the great Biblical teachings were thus unfolded gradually by God. For example, the assurance of forgiveness, of immortality, of man's responsibility to his neighbors, and the character of God Himself, all reach their climax in the words and teaching of Jesus Christ.

I Have a Book

No. 2 in a Series: "Precious Possessions"

Psalm 119:9-16; John 20:30,31; II Timothy 3:14-17
(Universal Bible Sunday)

Intermediate (12-14 Years) *DECEMBER 14*

Comments by Frances M. Becker

The Value of Books

Books have no meaning and little value unless they are opened and read. An attractive display of books on a shelf may add beauty and dignity to a room without adding a drop of beauty or dignity to the life of the owner of the books. A Bible carefully placed on a table may suggest the home of a Christian, but unless the pages are opened and God's Word prayerfully read, there is no Christian growth.

All of us have heard the story of the soldier whose life was saved because he carried a New Testament in his jacket pocket. A piece of shrapnel was stopped from entering his body by the pages of the "Book." That soldier's life, however, was only truly saved when he carried God's Word—not in his pocket, but in his heart.

The Bible is not a fetish, a charm, a talisman or a magic omen. It is God's Word for His people; unless the pages are read by His people, it has no true value.

Someone once wrote a diary of a Bible in which the Bible complained because it was used for everything except its real purpose. It was used to house the first corsage a girl had ever received. It was used to record births, marriages and deaths in the family. It was used to grace the living room table when company came. It was used to store love letters, newspaper clippings of vital importance and favorite bits of this and that. But never once was it used to find out what God's message was for the people in that home. It was a poor, discouraged Bible diary.

The Place of the Bible

From the time when the monks in their monastery cells carefully copied by hand the words of the Bible, until today, when millions of Bibles are printed in a year, God's word has consistently held first place.

In the days before the Reformation Bibles, because of the tedious copying by hand, were very scarce and very expensive. Frequently the price of a Bible was a year's wages. With the Reformation, the invention of the printing press by John Gutenberg in the 15th century and the translation of the Bible into the spoken language of the people, the demand for Bibles became greater. We read that frequently one Bible in a village was chained to a permanent stand of some sort so that it might be read by all the people who wanted to read God's Word.

Translating the Bible into the language of the people was not as simple as it sounds. This was against the dictates of Rome so many of the translators were persecuted and condemned to death. Martin Luther, who in the 16th century translated the Bible into German, was to receive the penalty of death for heresy but was saved by his friends. Wycliff, who in 1382 A.D. translated the first English Bible, was excommunicated and John Tyndale, for translating the Bible into English, was burned in 1536.

But God's Word cannot be erased by fire, water, persecutions and death. God's Word is eternal and today the Bible is translated into more than a thousand languages and dialects with approximately nine-tenths of the world's people being able to read or hear the Bible in their own tongue.

SOME NOTABLE QUOTES

George Washington: "It is impossible to rightly govern the world without God and the Bible."

Patrick Henry: "The Bible is worth all other books which have ever been printed."

Abraham Lincoln: "I believe the Bible is the best gift God has ever given to man."

The Purpose of The Bible

On one of the visits of a group of Philadelphia Christian Endeavorers to the Philadelphia waterfront, some men were seen distributing books to the sailors on the various ships anchored in the Delaware River.

These men were Gideons, members of a society whose purpose it is to distribute Bibles to all people. This is the organization which places Bibles in hotel rooms. As these Gideons went from ship to ship—French, German, Italian, Japanese, Brazilian and American—they would take Bibles in those languages to the sailors on board.

Why do they do this? Because the Gideons feel their responsibility for bringing God's Word to the saved and the unsaved. They believe what God says in the 55th chapter of Isaiah, verse 11, "So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, . . . and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it."

God knows that His children need direction, strength, help and Divine power to live from day to day in such a way that is pleasing to Him. Of ourselves, we cannot accomplish this, but with God all things are possible and the Bible helps us to stay on the right track. David says it very well in Psalm 119, "Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against Thee."

John says, "These are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through His name" (John 20:31).

Timothy says, "From a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect" (II Timothy 3:15-17).

From the Book of Books

M., Dec. 8. Attentive Reading. Nehemiah 8:1-3.
T., Dec. 9. The Word of Faith. Romans 10:4-13.
W., Dec. 10. The Word of Power. Hebrews 4:12,13.
T., Dec. 11. The Word of Hope. Romans 15:4.
F., Dec. 12. The Enduring Word. I Peter 1:24,25.
S., Dec. 13. The Good Man's Delight. Psalm 1.
Sun., Dec. 14. Topic—I Have a Book. Psalm 119:9-16; John 20:30,31; II Timothy 3:14-17. (Universal Bible Sunday)

How Well Do You Know Your Bible?

1. Do you read it daily? (This is a promise on the part of each Christian Endeavor member of the Quiet Hour.)

2. Do you read it thoughtfully and prayerfully? (Each time you read the Bible, God has a message for you. This is lost if you read when you are falling asleep or if you read the Bible carelessly.)

3. How many verses of the Bible have you memorized? (A verse of Scripture in your heart and memory can frequently turn someone to God during a time of difficulty.)

4. Do you read the Bible in your family group, in your group of friends? (Shared inspiration received from Bible reading increases understanding.)

Hints for the Meeting

1. The leader could make tiny books in which the various activities of the meeting are written. As each person comes into the meeting room he receives a booklet which tells him his part in the meeting.

2. Have a time for memorized Bible verses. Get or make an alphabetical list of Bible verses and learn one a week until you know twenty-six of them. Here are some examples:

A—"A good name is rather to be chosen than great riches, and loving favor rather than silver and gold" (Proverbs 22:1).

B—"Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved" (Acts 16:31).

3. Sing some choruses you know about God's Word.

The B I B L E
Yes, that's the Book for me
I stand alone on the Word of God
The B I B L E

The Bible stands like a rock undaunted
'Mid the raging storms of time.
Its pages burn with the truth eternal
And it glows with a light sublime.
The Bible stands, though the hills may tumble;
It will firmly stand though the earth shall crumble;
I will plant my feet on its firm foundation,
For the Bible stands.

4. Encourage young people to carry Bibles to Christian Endeavor, to Sunday school, to church.

5. Some songs to sing: *With Thy Spirit Fill Me; O Jesus, I Have Promised; Trust and Obey; Break Thou the Bread of Life.*

I Have a Saviour

No. 3 in a Series: "Precious Possessions"

Isaiah 9:6,7; Luke 2:7-17

Senior-Young People (15-24 Years) *DECEMBER 2*

*Comments by Dr. M. Eugene Osterhaven**

Considerations for the Leader

In this topic you will have an opportunity to discuss the most important possession any person can ever have. Plan carefully and prayerfully for the meeting. The topic is in the form of a confession of faith easily lending itself to personal witness.

As a reminder of the nature of our "precious possessions" being considered in this series one might display a poster with pictures clipped from magazines of other possessions which even Christians may tend to put first in their lives. This poster might be entitled "Possessions" and feature a new car, a speed boat, a home and one or two other items. Attention might be called to these possessions and the fact that they are good in themselves. However, they are not the most precious possessions which a Christian has. The most precious gifts are those of a spiritual nature. The most precious of all is the consideration of this topic.

Publicity

Place a manger scene in your church vestibule with a poster bearing the topic of this meeting, "I Have a Saviour," and these additional words, "Meet with Him" and the time and place of your meeting.

Suggested Program Outline

Pre-Prayer Service
Quiet Music (lights dimmed)
Scripture (The Promise of His Coming): Isaiah 7:13,14; 9:6,7; 11:1-5
Christmas Carol: *Silent Night, Holy Night*
Scripture: Luke 2:1-11
Christmas Carol: *Away in a Manger*
Scripture: Philippians 2:5-8
Hymn: *Hallelujah, What a Saviour!*
Scripture: Philippians 2:9-11
Offertory Hymn: *Jesus Saves*
Leader's Talk
Speakers 1 and 2
The Aim and Life Problem
Discussion and Questions
Prayer Session with Leader Closing
Hymn: *Since Jesus Came into My Heart*
Benediction

Preparation for the Leader

A man is often measured today by his possessions. This may be a poor way of estimating a man, especially when the standard of measurement is a material one. Many people assume that one is as successful as his pocketbook or bankroll is large.

Jesus speaks differently, however. He informs us that "a man's life consisteth not in the abundance of the things which he possesseth" (Luke 12:15). Rather, it is to be measured by inner quality, by its *spiritual* possessions. "For what shall it profit a man if he shall gain the whole world and lose his own soul" (Mark 8:36)? A man may have many possessions today and lose them all tomorrow. Concerning our "precious possessions," however, this is not true, for those spiritual gifts abide with us when all else is gone.

*Dr. Osterhaven is a professor at Western Theological Seminary in Holland, Michigan.

PARTICIPATION IN DISCUSSION

1. What difference is there between making a life and make a living?
2. What are the apparent, and the more basic, reasons for persons differing in their estimation of what are our "precious possessions"?
3. How can Jesus become one's most precious possession?

Our most precious possession is God's great gift to the world, Jesus Christ, whose coming we celebrate this week. This, the original Christmas gift, has meant life and salvation to mankind. Jesus Christ is our only hope and joy today as He has been the hope and joy of the Christian Church down the ages. In Him we know God, ourselves and the meaning of existence. Without Him we do not know God, understand ourselves, or the true purpose of life.

Christ is our most precious possession because He lived, died and rose again that we might be brought into a saving relationship with the living God. With our sin having been purged through the blood of His cross, with Christ now reigning on high and His Holy Spirit having been sent to us, we have a Saviour who means more to us than everything else in the world.

It is sometimes difficult for us in such a richly blessed land to see this clearly. We are so surrounded by the benefits of a plush, materialistic living that they tend to hide from our sight the greater values, just as a coin held against the eye will blot out the sun. It is well to remind ourselves, therefore, of the great blessing which we have in Christ that we may properly thank our God for His gift.

Having received this Saviour, however, means that we must return His love and live for Him as our Lord. "He died for all, that they which live should not henceforth live unto themselves, but unto him who died for them and rose again" (II Corinthians 5:15). Let us consider what this may mean in our lives.

First Speaker

Having Jesus Christ as Saviour and Lord means that we are no longer the masters o our lives. We are "bondservants," as Pau said he was. We serve a Lord, one wh has bought us with a price and who ca then ask that we serve Him (I Corinthian 6:20).

Second Speaker

Having a Saviour also means that w must serve Him. But how can we do so We can serve Him by living as He desire by witnessing to Him in our daily work a occasion presents itself, or as we can pro vide the occasion. It means living a ful rich life in fellowship with Christ so tha in word or deed, or whatsoever we do, w "do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giv ing thanks to God and the Father by him (Colossians 3:17). That is how we sho that we have a Saviour indeed.

Leader's Climax

Let each of us then so live that Jesu Christ can be seen in us so that other through our experience, will want this Sa iour, too.

Our Aim

To demonstrate to all men that Jes Christ is a living Saviour; that He reig above and, through His Holy Spirit, in o hearts.

Life Problem

John came from a Christian home a wanted to be a Christian. Anti-Christi social pressures seemed too great for hi He felt that he ought to cut off some of h friends but he did not know where th would leave him. Furthermore, the fam of his girl friend did not attend church a his friend's father felt that religion was "racket." John felt his faith wavering. Wh should he do?

Quotations

A life hid with Christ in God does n come by chance. We must choose it, d sire it, seek it. Endeavorers, let this be o motto, our purpose, our prayer: to co within the blessed reach of this current, abide with Christ, to surrender ourselves Him, to let Him use us, to think less our efforts and more of His fullness, seek a larger infilling from above, deep draughts of His life, more emptiness self, more fullness of Christ.

—*Francis E. Cl*

If a thing reflects no light, it is black it reflects a part of the rays, it is blue indigo or red; but if it reflects them all, is white. If we are like Christ, we shall s not to absorb, but to reflect upon oth the light which falls from heaven upon and thus we shall become pure and sp less; for this is the meaning of the "wh robes" which the saints wear in glory.

—*Beed*

Meditations

M., Dec. 15. Joy to the World. John 1:14.
T., Dec. 16. The World's Saviour. Philippians 2:5-11.
W., Dec. 17. Good Tidings to All People. Luke 2:10.
T., Dec. 18. Christ's Mission. Isaiah 61:1-3.
F., Dec. 19. Peace and Goodwill. Luke 2:14.
S., Dec. 20. The Light of the World. John 8:12.
Sun., Dec. 21. Topic—I Have a Saviour. Isaiah 9:6,7; Luke 2:7-17.

I Have a Saviour

No. 3 in a Series: "Precious Possessions"

Luke 2:1-20

ıtermediate (12-14 Years) *DECEMBER 21*

*Comments by Elwood Dunn**

or the Leader

Have the group make a list of the five ost valuable things they possess. List both ıysical and non-physical items. Approach e list as if you were going to run from a ood or some impending disaster. What ings would you feel you couldn't do with-ıt and must, therefore, take with you? fter listing the physical items, make a list the mental and spiritual possessions you ılue most.

Here are some suggested hymns to be ed in the worship service: *Joy to the orld; Now I Belong to Jesus; Trust and bey; I Am Praying for You; Hallelujah! hat a Saviour; Jesus Saves.*

ıe Joy of Possession

"I got a new baseball," yelled Bob as he me out of the front door, stumbling over s own feet in his haste to tell his pal eke about the new ball. His parents had ven it to him on his birthday and it had en the one thing he had wanted most. his voice was the exultant pride of pos-ssion of something new and valuable, mething that he had long dreamed of vning.

Can you with the same pride, joy and surance of possession say with exuber-ıce, "I have a Saviour"? There are many own through the years who have been ble to make this statement.

ıe Shepherds Received Him

Out on the hills of Palestine there were epherds watching over the sheep. They ere men who lived in the out-of-doors.

During the long nights, which were often ld and lonesome, the shepherds often atched the stars twinkle their way across e sky. Anything new in the heavens was e subject of much conversation.

These shepherds were Jews and steeped the history of the Hebrew race. They aited for the day when the longed-for essiah would come and bring his blessings the Jews.

Around the campfire during the long ghts there was many a discussion of how d when the Messiah would appear. Would ey see Him? Would He appear only to select few? No one knew, but their prayers ere always for God to hasten the day.

It is no wonder, then, that on the night Jesus' birth the shepherds noticed a new ar in the heavens. They knew that some-ing marvelous was coming to pass. And hen the angels lifted their voices and sang glory to God and peace on earth, good ill among men, the shepherds were ready receive the message.

They quickly girded themselves and were f to follow the strange star. They came

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AIMS

1. To review the incidents describing those who visited Mary and Jesus at the time of His birth.
2. To note the joy of the shepherds and the wise men in finding the Saviour.
3. To recognize Jesus as our Saviour.
4. To help others find Jesus as Saviour.

FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION

1. How do you know that you have a Saviour?
2. Is feeling or knowledge of obedience the test for possession of a Saviour?
3. What characteristics will be readily seen in the person who has received Jesus as Saviour?

with their gifts in awe and adoration to see the Christ Child who was to be the Saviour.

As they went back to their tasks they were never again the same. They had looked upon the son of Mary and seen in Him the Saviour. And He was theirs! A lilting song in their hearts, they came away with pride, humbleness and exuberance. They could now say, "I have a Saviour!"

The Wise Men Found Jesus

In the far-off east in the years before the birth of Jesus there were wise men who watched the stars, read the ancient writings, and studied the needs of men.

As the time of the coming of Jesus drew nigh a glimmer of His birth shone before Him. These men of the east felt it. They made calculations of all kinds and bolstered their belief with such scientific investigations as they could make. To add to their convictions there came a strange star which hung in the heavens and beckoned them to follow.

No doubt the wise men checked all their findings, searched the books, prayed and consulted with each other about the meaning of the strange new star. Their conclusion was that the time had come and God was sending a king to earth. A Saviour was coming and the star was His sign.

Leaving their families, homes and positions they started to follow the star. What great faith it must have taken!

The wise men came to Jerusalem. There they sought Herod to learn where this new king might be found. They were men of such caliber that they felt no hesitancy in calling upon the ruler for help in finding the Saviour. The teachers of the Jews said the Messiah was to come in Bethlehem. So on to that city went the wise men. Herod, the ruler, asked the wise men to tell him when they found the Saviour, so that he, too, could come and worship.

The star again guided the Magi of the East and these ancient philosophers found the infant Jesus. In Him was the answer to all their hopes. They knelt and worshipped Him and presented their gifts.

Afterwards they were warned not to return by way of Jerusalem, but to return another way. They left with a glorious glow in their hearts for after traveling a long way each of the wise men could say with the untrained shepherds, "I have a Saviour!"

For Daily Meditation

M., Dec. 15. Joy to the World. John 1:14.
T., Dec. 16. The World's Saviour. Philippians 2:5-11.
W., Dec. 17. Good Tidings to All People. Luke 2:10.
T., Dec. 18. Christ's Mission. Isaiah 61:1-3.
F., Dec. 19. Peace and Goodwill. Luke 2:14.
S., Dec. 20. The Light of the World. John 8:12.
Sun., Dec. 21. Topic—I Have a Saviour. Luke 2:1-20.

Herod Missed the Saviour

Herod, the king, was an old man, insanely jealous of his position as king. He had an all-possessing fear that someone would take his position from him. He even plotted the death of members of his own family because he feared they were trying to get the throne.

When the wise men came with their talk of a new king, Herod's first thought was to destroy him. When Herod knew the wise men were gone and had not reported their finding of the new king, he was very angry. He knew that one of the babies was to be a king, but which one?

Not knowing which was the chosen child, he issued an order to kill all the babies under two years of age. A monstrous edict! But it was carried out and the children destroyed. Again God intervened and told Joseph to take Mary and the Babe to Egypt where they remained safely until Herod's death.

But what of Herod? This poor man, seeking eternal life through his position, found instead only death. He never knew Jesus as Lord. He never knew the joy of the shepherds and the thrill of the wise men for he was never able to say, "I have a Saviour!" His own selfishness and greed stood in the way.

The Disciples Recognized the Saviour

In the opening chapter of the Gospel of John is recorded John the Baptist's identification of Jesus as the Lamb of God. As John was standing with two of his disciples, Jesus walked by and John declared again that there was the Lamb of God.

The two disciples followed Jesus and stayed with Him that day. Andrew, when he left Jesus, went at once to find his brother Peter, to tell him that they had found the Messiah. Peter came and believed.

The next day Jesus met Philip who went out immediately to locate Nathaniel, explaining to him that the Messiah had come. When Nathaniel met Jesus he too believed.

The disciples were busy telling others that the Messiah had come. As each met Jesus they came to know Him as Lord and many joined the refrain that has rung through the ages, "I have a Saviour!"

I Have a New Year

No. 4 in a Series: "Precious Possessions"

Ephesians 6:10-20; Ezekiel 36:25-28

Senior-Young People (15-24 Years) *DECEMBER 28*

Comments by Dr. M. Eugene Osterhaven

Consideration for the Leader

This meeting gives one the opportunity of leading people to self-examination and resolution. At the end of the year we all tend to look back and this enables us to help our fellows take spiritual inventory. It also causes us to look ahead, and that is the thrust of this topic. Especially in this day when there is great apprehension in the hearts of many people the leader has an opportunity to give them encouragement and strength.

Publicity

Send a card to each member of your society and to others who should be invited to come, reminding them that this is the last meeting of the year and that all are urged to be present. Mention the topic, time and place of meeting.

Suggested Program Outline

Pre-Prayer Service
Prelude: *Faith of Our Fathers*
Hymn: *O God, Our Help in Ages Past*
Scripture: Psalm 90; Joshua 1:1-9
Hymn: *Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah*
Announcements and Offering
Special Music
Leader's Talk
Speakers 1 and 2
Aim and Life Problem
Discussion and Questions
Prayer Session
Hymn: *Lead On, O King Eternal*
Benediction

Preparation for the Leader

One of our most precious possessions is time. Often, however, we fail to appreciate this gift as we ought. We live as though our time in this world is endless. We waste it, squander it and let the days and years slip by us with little thought of the gift and meaning of time. At this last meeting of the year reflection on this theme is in order.

First, let us look back over the year through which we have just come. It has been filled with blessings of God not the least of which was the blessing of time. We should be grateful for all these blessings.

We should also profit from whatever mistakes we have made. As we look back we see a number of them. One of these mistakes was our misuse of time; another was our failure to use opportunities which God gave us to serve Him in various ways. There were times when we could have cheered a friend, comforted a sorrower, helped someone going astray, led someone to Christ. But we muffed our opportunity and it may never come again.

A Christian mother used to say to her children, when they whiled away their time doing nothing constructive, "Lost, somewhere between sunrise and sunset, two golden hours each studded with sixty diamond minutes. No reward is offered for they are lost and gone forever." Those words registered and gave someone a better sense of the stewardship of time.

But now a new year is opening before us and its possibilities are almost unlimited. One's enthusiasm can rise as he reflects on the opportunities that it may hold, on what the new year may bring us for good or ill. The Christian, however, knows that whatever happens the new year is in God's hands so that he may enter it with trust in God and heartfelt joy.

How shall we go into the new year?

Christians should enter it with a high resolve to use their possession of time, this new year, for God. He has given us a new year. This precious possession makes us responsible that we use it well. This *may be* the last year God will give us. Let us then, as we remember our relation and responsibility to Him, dedicate this year to His service. Much in this world is dedicated to pleasure, to the lust for power, or to ourselves. As Christians we should use our gifts for our Lord, and that includes this new year.

This should mean that we shall use the year to advance God's Kingdom. Christian Endeavor exists for Christ and the Church. We seek to build the Church for Christ's sake and in so doing we are building the only foundation for a better world. Amidst all the pessimism, anxiety and hopelessness of our day there is one bright ray of hope, the Church of Jesus Christ.

To become more personal we can say that we should use this new year for increased fellowship with our Lord in prayer and His Word. The reason that we are not more courageous, more happy, more confident Christians is that we often neglect these matters. But here lies our secret of strength. Do we want triumphant Christian experience? Then let us exercise this inner secret of joy and strength. Prayerful meditation on the Word of God will help make us what we ought to be.

Finally, let us make Christ-like living a habit in our lives. Thomas a Kempis once suggested that we single out a certain fault and devote a whole year to its eradication. The next year we should take another and thus continue until we become like Christ. The acquiring of Christian habits is eminently desirable. C. S. Lewis, in his *Screwtape Letters,* makes the devil Screwtape say to his nephew-devil Wormwood, "It is only insofar as they reach the will and are embodied in habits that virtues are really fatal to us. All sorts of virtues painted in fantasy or approved by the intellect, or even in a measure loved and admired will not keep a man from our father's house (hell) indeed they may make him more amusing when he gets there."

PARTICIPATION IN DISCUSSION

1. Is it sinful to waste time?
2. Is the Christian duty-bound to seek sanctification? If so, what about those Christians who seem to make no spiritual progress from year to year?
3. If you were told that you had but six months to live, how would you use your time?

Daily Bible Lessons

M., Dec. 22. New Birth. John 3:1-8.
T., Dec. 23. New Covenant. Hebrews 8:6-13.
W., Dec. 24. New Heart. Ezekiel 11:19-21.
T., Dec. 25. New Name. Isaiah 62:1-5.
F., Dec. 26. New Song. Psalm 40:1-4.
S., Dec. 27. New Jerusalem. Revelation 21:1-4.
Sun., Dec. 28. Topic—I Have a New Year. Ephesians 6:10-20; Ezekiel 36:25-28.

First Speaker

I wish to underscore the opportunity we shall each have to witness for Christ this coming year. Some rich opportunities will present themselves to us; others can be made by an alert Christian. Using them for Christ brings great reward in one's spiritual life and honors the Christ who will bring our years to a close one day.

Second Speaker

How many Christians are looking into the future with fear rather than faith? It was said of the Puritans that they feared nothing but God. Today it may truthfully be said of many that they fear everything but God. If, as our Scripture stated, the Lord our God is with us wherever we go we can have courage.

Our Aim

To make this new year the best that we have lived. We shall set our sights high and strive to attain with the help of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Life Problem

Betty has always wanted to go on to school but her mother's early death has prevented it. For four years she has had a job as a clerk in a store and she believes that she may be doing that in the future. She is tired of her work and does not look forward to another year in it with joy. What help is there for her?

Quotations

Better to strive and climb, and never reach the goal,
Than to drift along with time, an aimless worthless soul,
Ay, better to climb and fail, to sow, though the yield be small,
Than to throw away day after day, and never strive at all.

Every day is a fresh beginning,
Every morn is the world made new;
You who are weary of sorrow and sinning,
Here is a beautiful hope for you,
A hope for me and a hope for you.
—Susan Collid

We should serve in newness of spirit, and not in the oldness of the letter.

I Have a New Year

No. 4 in a Series: "Precious Possessions"

Philippians 3:13b,14; Proverbs 3:1-7; Ezekiel 18:30-32

termediate (12-14 Years) *DECEMBER 28*

Comments by Elwood Dunn

AIMS

1. To think of the new year as a reservoir of time to be used to the best advantage.
2. To give thought to the means of evaluating possible choices.
3. To consider the necessity for making decisions.
4. To look at the results that come from making choices.

e Leader's Opening

With a blackboard and the help of the oup work out a proposed budget of ne for each day. Include such things as hool, work, study, recreation, church, rest, c. Make it an ideal budget.

When this is done, work out quickly a cond one based upon the actual time that embers of the group think they use in eir everyday life.

How do the ideal budget and the actual e compare? In the end how much time you actually control? How much time is urs to accomplish your aims in life? Are u making the very best use of the time? A look at these two budgets shows that ne limits you as to what you can do each y and in a lifetime. Wouldn't it be arvelous if one could go to church, do mework, finish home chores, and watch levision all at the same time! But most you can only do one thing at a time; me can do two or even three but it takes genius to do much more than that. This eans that you will have to make choices.

hat Should Come First?

At the end of and the beginning of a ar is a good time to do some measuring the worth of the possible things that u can and should do. Instead of haphazdly doing whatever comes up, decide cording to the worth of the item under nsideration. You will need some way to aluate the possible courses you can take. ere are some suggested tests.

(1) Will someone be improved by your oice? This improvement might be your vn or someone who associates with you. you look at all the possible things that u can do, evaluate them in terms of imovement for you or someone else. Ask urself, "Who will be improved by what do?" Then make your choice.

(2) Another very simple test is to ask urself if your father and mother would prove of the action. Generally if you put urself in their place and try to see the ssibilities through your parents' eyes you ll be likely to make the best choice.

When Wayne went away to college for e first time he became associated with a oup that found fault with the school and e instructors.

Little by little Wayne began to say and ink the same things. His work, and that all the group, fell off. When the first ade reports came they were alarming. nen Wayne began to think. He remembered an old adage that his father often oted, to the effect that if you couldn't y something good about someone you ouldn't say anything at all.

Wayne soon realized what he was doing ould never measure up to his father's ideal. he said less and less in the sessions with e others. Then he thought, "Why not say mething good about the teachers?" So the next time he found something to praise. The others said nothing. The second time that he pointed out something good about a teacher someone agreed that he was right.

Wayne kept on with his positive way and to his surprise found that more and more the others began to agree. The criticism fell off until there was very little crabbing. An unexpected result was an upturn in interest in study and some better grades. One person can change an entire group if they go about it in the right manner.

(3) This test in measuring how to decide is in the form of a question: Could you invite Jesus to join you? As you think of all the possibilities for choosing and believe you know the right one, can you say, "Dear Jesus, go with me to the school party. Go with me to the basketball game. Come join me while I study. Sit with me while I read. Look over my shoulder while I work my math. Let's go for a ride in the car. Watch the speedometer with me." If you can honestly invite Jesus to join you then it's very likely a good thing to do.

Deposits of Character

Every choice that you make leaves a deposit of character in your life. You have studied about stalactites and stalagmites and how they are formed in caves by water dripping from the top of the cave to the floor. Each drop of water as it hesitates on the ceiling evaporates a little and leaves a small mineral deposit on the roof. Then when it hits it does the same thing. From these deposits the formations appear.

Similarly, every decision leaves a deposit of character and shapes your future decisions and the kind of life you live. Every choice affects every choice that comes after it, so it becomes very important what and how you choose.

With the new year before you, isn't it a good time to determine to evaluate every decision and take only the best? Each choice of the best will make the next one easier and better.

Group Decisions

Not only will you as an individual be making choices, but the same is true of your Christian Endeavor society. This is a good time to make some decisions as a group for the next year.

You might consider some behavior items. Are you starting on time? Do you talk among yourselves while someone else is leading? Do you take part in the singing? Would you like to have a larger society? Why not set some goals for the society for this new year? There are those who should be won for Christ and the Church. Shouldn't you set out to do it?

Take Paul's admonition seriously when he urges, " . . . This one thing I do, forgetting the things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those which are before I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus." Philippians 3:13,14.

Life Problems

1. A boy in Junior High wants very much to be in the band. He has just started and knows that it will take at least six months study and practice before he will have the desired skill. He realizes that he will have difficulty keeping himself on a regular schedule. How can he make a resolution that he can keep? Would a daily program to follow help him build self-mastery? Should he ask for daily supervision by a friend? Is there a superior way to build a good habit? If so, what?

2. An important problem for a great many people is eating—right eating, that is. Many people eat too much. Others do not keep a balanced diet. Athletes find keeping training hard. They want to eat sweets and other foods that affect their stamina. If you find yourself in one of these positions how can you resolve that you will formulate a diet and stick to it? What steps can you take to make this decision a reality this year?

3. Pete has made a decision to quit smoking this year. He has a great deal of trouble with his own desire. What can he do to eliminate the habit? When his friends find out his decision they make fun of him and otherwise attempt to get him to return to his smoking. What kind of action can Pete take to help him keep his resolve? List the steps on the blackboard. Are these steps that would be good in any situation in which your aim was to keep a decision?

Suggested Hymns

Jesus Calls Us; I Need Jesus; Take Time To Be Holy; Are Ye Able; Lead On, O King Eternal.

Bible Passages

M., Dec. 22. New Birth. John 3:1-8.
T., Dec. 23. New Covenant. Hebrews 8:6-13.
W., Dec. 24. New Heart. Ezekiel 11:19-21.
T., Dec. 25. New Name. Isaiah 62:1-5.
F., Dec. 26. New Song. Psalm 40:1-4.
S., Dec. 27. New Jerusalem. Revelation 21:1-4.
Sun., Dec. 28. Topic—I Have a New Year. Philippians 3:13b,14; Proverbs 3:1-7; Ezekiel 18:30-32.

Have you made adequate plans for the celebration of Christian Endeavor Week January 25-February 1? A complete packet, full of suggestions and helps, is available for just 50c from the International Society of Christian Endeavor, 1221 East Broad Street, Columbus 16, Ohio. Plan now for Christian Endeavor's 78th birthday celebration.

First in a Series of Program Resources

FOUR GOSPELS Proclaim OUR SAVIOUR

Christ Is Born

FOUR WITNESSES FOR CHRIST

Matthew, one of the twelve disciples, writes for fellow Jews. In his Gospel, God as Father is the keynote, and this revelation in Christ explains the New Covenant (Testament) replacing the Old. Jesus' teachings, notably the Sermon on the Mount, are reported by one trained in recording.

Mark is believed to be writing on behalf of Peter, whose directness serves to make this a Gospel of action, with no long discourses. Miracles are important to Mark-Peter, yet "the manhood of the Master" is always to the fore. Jewish prophecies are not emphasized; Mark writes for Romans.

Luke's is a Gospel for Greeks, to whom also Luke addresses his Acts of the Apostles. The physician who was Paul's loyal companion offers many facts not given elsewhere, clothing all in literary artistry. This is a Gospel of mercy and forgiveness; compassion reaches its high point in Luke 23:34.

While we think of the Fourth Gospel, ascribed to the disciple John, as spiritual interpretation, this book also gives facts of importance not reported elsewhere (as in 13:1-20 and 17:1-26). John's well-organized thesis centers on Jesus' divine nature. In this Gospel, Christ is timeless, eternal, Revealer of the God of Love, and Redeemer of all mankind.

JESUS is born in Bethlehem, as the prophets have foretold (Isaiah 7:14; 9:6,7; Micah 5:2). Although angels announce His coming, as the long-awaited Messiah of the Jews, He will be "despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief" (Isaiah 53:3-6). "His own received him not" (John 1:11).

The story of Jesus' birth is told briefly in Matthew's Gospel, which is addressed to "His own," the Jews, who are at this time a conquered and dispersed people, among whom the historic hope for the Messiah, or God's Anointed, has dwindled.

Matthew seeks to reawaken the messianic hope. He gives a detailed history of babe, hailed by the angelic chorus, and of young man, hailed as prophesied by John the Baptist (Matthew 3:1-3), and entering upon the Messiah's mission of redemption (Matthew 4:17,23; Isaiah 29:18-24; 61:1-3).

Jesus is born also to the Gentiles, the non-Jews—the whole world. It is the joyful task of Luke to give the story of the Redeemer's birth "among all nations" (Luke 24:47, quoting the Risen Saviour). In precise detail and with beauty and dignity in the telling, Luke introduces "all nations" to John the Baptist as forerunner, Mary and the annunciation (1:28-38), the journey of Mary and Joseph to Bethlehem and its inn, and the birth of the Saviour.

Luke's Gospel tells us of the angel's message to a group of shepherds: "Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people" (2:10). *All people!* Luke is reporting a Coming which is for *"all* nations," *all* who will believe.

Luke, a companion of Paul, born in Antioch, was probably a Jew but one who spent much of his life as physician among non-Jews, or Gentiles. But we shall see that Luke finds good prophetic grounds for the Jewish Messiah as God's chosen Redeemer of those *outside* the House of Israel.

Important in the Christmas Story is the visit of Simeon to the temple, at the time the young child is brought there to be presented to the Lord (Luke 2:22,25).

"Mine eyes have seen thy salvation," the aged man prays aloud, "which thou hast prepared before the face of all people; a light to lighten (or "for revelation to") the Gentiles, and the glory of thy people Israel."

Luke has reported this happening as a reminder that in the old prophecies the promised Messiah is much more than "David's son," an earthly ruler of Israel. "A light of the Gentiles" comes to faithful Simeon from Isaiah 42:6; 49:6 and 60:2,3.

It is from the "beloved physician" (Colossians 4:14), gifted chronicler of the Acts of the Apostles, that we learn of the childhood and youth of Jesus. "And the child grew, and waxed strong in spirit, filled with wisdom: and the grace of God was upon him," we read in Luke 2:40—and there follows the story, as if in illustration of the boy's spirit and wisdom, of the visit to the temple at the age of 12 (2:42-51).

A verse familiar to young people and of significance to their parents and teachers follows. "And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and man" (2:52).

Described many years ago by F. W. Farrar as "an accomplished writer, a close observer, an unassuming historian," Luke is also the Psalmist of the New Testament. We turn to his Gospel not only for the angels' song of Christmastide but for the songs of Mary (Magnificat) and Zechariah (Benedictus) in the first chapter and that of Simeon (Nunc Dimittis) in the second.

Mark and John begin their accounts of Jesus' life with His ministry. And in John, probably the latest among the four, the emphasis on *the Christian's new birth* might be said to take the place of the Bethlehem story. It is John who tells us of Nicodemus, to whom Jesus said: "Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God." (Note also John 1:13; I John 3:9; 5:18.)

When taken with such a reference as Romans 6:4, can this mean that, as the Church learns to preach and serve, the believer's spiritual rebirth gains in significance? Knowing that others have told us of the Nativity, the Fourth Gospel would emphasize for us *the Word become flesh,* "the true Light." (Read John 1:9,12,13.)

MAKING use of the truth of *all the Gospels,* we may perceive that for the Saviour there is kinship between His birth among men and man's rebirth as a child of the Heavenly Father. And this suggests that Christian evangelism is as seasonable to Christmastime as to any other period in the church's calendar.

The Christian Call is to worship Him who brings light and salvation by giving to Him our full devotion and loyalty. The believer need not wait until Lent or Eastertide contemplating the slain and risen Saviour to make his glad confession. Advent can be an evangelistic season also. Let this be a time for quiet and personal evangelistic efforts.

Christmas should be one more season of the summons: "The Master is come, and calleth for thee."

JUNIOR CE MEETINGS
The Quarterly for Juniors

Topics for DECEMBER

Dec. 7. How I Can Use My Bible.
II Timothy 3:14-17; Psalm 119:1

Dec. 14. Sharing My Bible with Others.
Mark 4:1-9,13-2

Dec. 21. Shepherds from the Field.
Luke 2:8-1

Dec. 28. Travelers from the East.
Matthew 2:1-

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Report from Frankfurt

(Continued from Page 7, Col. 3)

prepared by the International Society translated for local use in the Marsh Islands. JAPAN . . . A great union w here featuring area meetings and specia ing in summer leadership conferences a Lifework Recruit conferences where ho of young people are led to give themsel over to preparation for full-time Christ service. KOREA . . . The movement h is vital and dynamic, divided into th age groups with major work among s dents. The thrilling story of Kim Il Young, then general secretary, who de his oppressors wanting him to liquid Christian Endeavor, faced them with cannot be ordered to cease doing my du Christian Endeavor marches ahead stea in Korea.

Space does not permit adequate tr ment of all that is being carried on am the youth of the world under the banne Christian Endeavor. There are many o unions and areas that bear mention. Su it to say that in the global ministry Christian Endeavor we find real mea to the words of the songwriter, "In Cl there is no east or west."

With Young Adults
By Bert H. Davis

NEWS
from around the world

r. P. Marion Simms, Jr., of East Lansing, ichigan, recently suffered a broken ankle. r. Simms formerly served as Educational cretary of the International Society.

. M. E. Osterhaven

Ronald J. Rosenberg

new topics writer for THE CHRISTIAN ENDEAV- R WORLD is Dr. M. Eugene Osterhaven, profes- r of systematic theology at Western Theolog- l Seminary, Holland, Michigan. Mr. Rosen- rg has been serving as New Jersey's general cretary since July 1. He is living in Borden- wn.

chard M. Smith of Walkersville, Mary- nd, second place winner in Division A in e 1957 Citizenship Contest, this summer gned a bonus contract with the Phillies on e strength of an 8-0 high school pitching cord, which includes 123 strikeouts in innings and a no-hitter. He played with hnson City, Tennessee, a Phillies farm ub, during the season. Best wishes, Dick!

A total of 138 Endeavorers from the five states in the Great Lakes Region participated in the conference held October 11-12 at Winona Lake, Indiana. Dr. Earle W. Gates, president of the International Society, was the banquet speaker and led the Sunday morning worship service. Other leaders included Elwood Dunn, general secretary of the Michigan Union; and Harold E. Westerhoff, Cecil A. Jeffery, and Phyllis I. Rike, staff members of the International Society.

"Teeners—Wise or Foolish" was the subject of the Fall Planning Retreat of Redmond Christian Church held September 26-28 at Rockaway, Oregon.

A "Conferette" at Clay General Baptist Church, Clay, Kentucky, was the occasion for organizing the new Webster County Christian Endeavor Union. Christian A. Tirre, Kentucky's field secretary, reports that the program included a conference for young people on "How to Lead a Meeting" and a sponsors' conference, using the SO YOU'RE A LEADER! visual presentation.

"Know Your America Week" is being observed November 23-29. Christian Endeavor societies and unions in the United States are urged to join with other agencies and organizations in their communities in observing this week. Information and a helpful manual may be obtained by writing to Robert C. Ross, citizenship director of the International Society.

Leadership training seminars in Washington State the last two weeks of September attracted over 400 pastors advisors, potential advisors, and student leaders. President Ed Underhill reports the sessions were held in seven different cities. They were a follow-up to leadership training meetings held in the spring, with the emphasis at these sessions being on committee work.

Endeavorers of Columbus, Ohio, recently enjoyed an exchange meeting with young people from North Perth, Australia. Members of the Intermediate Society of North Perth Church of Christ sent complete materials for a meeting on "Being a Christian on the Sporting Field" to Intermediates at Southwood Church of Christ in Columbus. Shown at left are members of the Columbus group examining the literature sent from Australia. In the lower left photo Roger Brown, society president, is shown leading the meeting. The Columbus Endeavorers are now preparing a meeting for the group in Australia, using a tape recording. Eleanor J. Jones is sponsor of the Southwood Intermediate Society.

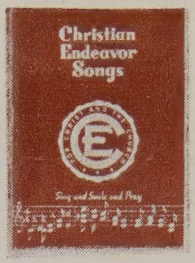
North Carolina Endeavorers are pictured during summer conference at Blowing Rock.

Good wishes go to the bride and groom, Mr. and Mrs. Jack A. Veerman. Mrs. Veerman is the former Carolyn N. Bryan of Washington, D.C., the daughter of Mrs. Ernest R. Bryan, member of the Executive Committee of the International Society, and the late Dr. Ernest R. Bryan, president of International Society. The wedding took place at New York Avenue Presbyterian Church in the Nation's Capitol on September 27, with Dr. Daniel A. Poling as one of the officiating ministers. After a honeymoon trip to Mexico, the Veermans are now at home at 20 Beekman Place, New York City.

Rev. Wan Suk Hahn, Korean delegate to the World's Christian Endeavor Convention in Frankfurt, stopped at Christian Endeavor Headquarters in Columbus, Ohio, en route home to Kunsan City, Korea. Rev. Andrew Kim of Seoul (left), his interpreter, and Harold E. Westerhoff, general secretary of the World's Christian Endeavor Union, are pictured with Mr. Hahn in the Jones Room at headquarters. They are standing before the historic desk on which Dr. Francis E. Clark prepared the constitution for the first Christian Endeavor society.

Current Helps

Use These Resource Materials for Better Programs!



Program Planning

PLANNING THE PROGRAM OF A CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR SOCIETY. Gives basic counsel to help society leaders develop much better program plans. A manual for officers, counselors, and committee chairmen. $.35.

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